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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/632,196

07/31/2003

Kevin M. Patfield

LUTZ 2 00223

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08/16/2007

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EXAMINER

ZAIDI, SYED

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2616

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/632,196

Applicant(s)

PATFIELD, KEVIN M.

Examiner

Syed Zaidi

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Detailed Action

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

**Claims 1- 4, and 8-12** are rejected under 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by **Elliott et al.**, (U S. Patent Application Publication # 2004/0022237 A1) in view of **Th<sup>ao</sup> et al.**, (U.S. Patent # 2004/0264455 A1).

**Consider claim 1, Elliott et al.**, discloses and show within a telecommunications network (paragraph 0005 lines 1-9 Figure 1) a method of processing half-calls each having opposing first and second ends (Paragraph # 0589 lines 1-12, Figure # 1, elements 132, 110, 118, 108, 128), each of said half-calls (Paragraph # 0589 lines 1-12) being one of an originating half-call (Paragraph # 1775 lines 1-3) terminated at the first end thereof by calling consumer premises equipment (paragraph 0012 lines 5-6) and a terminating half-call terminated (Paragraph # 0589 lines 1-12) at the first end thereof by called consumer premises equipment (paragraph 0611 lines 5-10, Figure # 1, elements 128, 132) wherein an associated pair of half-calls connected at their second ends including both an originating and terminating half-call completes a call connecting the consumer premises equipment terminating the respective first ends of the half-calls that form the pair, said method comprising: (a) applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b)

examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls (paragraph 0593 lines 1-14, table 177, and figure # 2A, elements 204, 254, 256). However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b) examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Tao et al.**, clearly shows and discloses applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls (Context, Figure # 4, element 120) are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers

thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls (Context , Figure # 4, element 130) that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b) examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers or (context) the terminating half-calls accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls (paragraph 0014 lines 7-14, paragraph 0034 lines 4-13, and figure # 4, elements 120, 122, 124, 130, 132,134,104 and 108).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose call context comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls as taught by **Tao et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Consider claim 2, Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao et al.**, discloses and show the method of claim 1, further comprising: prior

to step (a), receiving the originating half-calls from the calling consumer premises equipment over a packet-switched network; translating the received originating half-calls from a packet-switched call format to a circuit-switched call format such that each originating half-call defines an originating half-call routing path having a packet-switched portion and a circuit-switched portion; after step (a), directing the received originating half-calls to a circuit-switched network for routing prior to step (b), receiving the terminating half-calls from the (Paragraph # 0589 lines 1-6, Figure # 1, elements 132, 110, 118, 106, 117, 104, 108 and 128) circuit-switched network, translating the received terminating half-calls from the circuit-switch (Paragraph # 0009 lines 3-12) call format to the packet-switched call format such that each terminating half-call defines a terminating half-call routing path having a packet-switched portion and a circuit-switched portion (Paragraph # 0009 lines 3-12) and, after step (b), directing the received terminating half-calls to the called consumer premises equipment over the packet-switched (Paragraph # 0592 lines 1-10, Figure # 2B, elements 204, 304, 232, 234) network (paragraph 0611 lines 5-10, Figure # 1, elements 128, 132, 114).

**Consider claim 3, Elliott et al.,** as modified by **Tao et al.,** discloses and show within a telecommunications network (paragraph 0005 lines 1-9 Figure 1) the method of claim 2, wherein upon recognizing associated pairs of half-calls, the respective second ends of the half-calls forming each pair (Paragraph # 0589 lines 1-12, Figure # 1, elements 132, 110, 118, 108, 128) are connected to one another so as to reduce the originating and terminating half-call routing paths defined thereby to only their packet-switched portions (Paragraph # 0011 lines 1-10).

**Consider claim 4, Elliott et al.,** as modified by **Tao et al.,** discloses and show within a telecommunications network the method of claim 2, wherein upon recognizing associated pairs of half-calls, the respective second ends of the half-calls forming each pair are connected to one another so as to eliminate the circuit-switched portions from the originating and terminating half-call routing paths defined there by (Paragraph # 0009 lines 3-12).

**Consider claim 8, Elliott et al.,** discloses and show within a telecommunications network, wherein within a telecommunications



network, a call processing apparatus for processing half-calls each having opposing first and second ends, each of said half-calls being one of an originating half-call terminated at the first end thereof by calling consumer premises equipment and a terminating half-call (paragraph 0610, table 6, lines 9-11) terminated at the first end thereof by called consumer premises equipment, wherein an associated pair of half-calls connected at their second ends including both an originating and terminating half-call completes a call connecting the consumer premises equipment terminating the respective first ends of the half-calls that form the pair (paragraph 0610, table 6, lines 9-11) said call processing apparatus comprising: application means for applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another (paragraph 0610, table 6, lines 9-11), said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, examination means for examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls

to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b) examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Tao et al.**, clearly shows and discloses applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b) examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls

accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls (paragraph 0014 lines 7-14, paragraph 0034 lines 4-13, and figure # 4, elements 120, 122, 124, 130, 132, 134, 104 and 108).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose call context comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Tao et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Consider claim 9, Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao et al.**, discloses and show within a telecommunications network the, wherein the method of claim 8, further comprising, translation means for, receiving the originating half-calls from the calling consumer premises equipment (paragraph 0012 lines 5-6) over a packet-switched network, translating the received originating half-calls from a packet-switched call format to a circuit-switched call format such

that each originating half-call defines an originating half-call routing path having a packet-switched portion and a circuit-switched portion (paragraph 0014 lines 5-12 and figure # 1, element 132, 110, 118, 106,117,104,108, 117 and 128 ) (iii) directing the translated originating half-calls to a circuit-switched network for routing (paragraph 0012 lines 5-6, Figure #1 , elements 132, 110, 118, 106,117,104,108, 117 and 128) (iv) receiving the terminating half-calls from the circuit-switched network (paragraph 0019 lines 1-8 and figure # 1, elements 132, 110, 118, 106,117,104,108, 117 and 128 ). (v) translating the received terminating half-calls from the circuit-switch call format to the packet-switched call format such that each terminating half-call defines a terminating half-call routing path having a packet-switched portion (paragraph 0019 lines 1-8) and a circuit-switched portion (paragraph 0008 lines 2-5); and, (vi) directing the translated terminating half-calls to the called consumer premises equipment over the packet-switched network (Paragraph # 0011 lines 1-10).

**Consider claim 10, Elliott et al., as modified by Tao et al.,**  
discloses and show within a telecommunications network the

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method of claim 9, wherein the translation means comprises a gateway bridging the packet-switched network with the circuit-switched network (paragraph 0019 lines 1-8 and figure # 1, elements 132, 110, 118, 106, 117, 104, 108, 117 and 128).

**Consider claim 11, Elliott et al., as modified by Tao et al.,** discloses and show within the call processing apparatus of claim 9, further comprising: connection means for connecting half-calls recognized as associated pairs such that the respective second ends of the half-calls forming each pair are connected to one another so as to reduce the originating and terminating half-call routing paths defined thereby to only their packet-switched portions (Paragraph # 0011 lines 1-10).

**Consider claim 12, Elliott et al., as modified by Tao et al.,** discloses and show within the call processing apparatus of claim 9, further comprising, further comprising: connection means for connecting half-calls recognized as associated pairs such that the respective second ends of the half-calls forming each pair are connected to one another so as to eliminate the circuit-switched

portions from the originating and terminating half-call routing paths defined thereby. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b) examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Tao et al.**, clearly shows and discloses applying identifiers to originating half-calls such that the originating half-calls are distinctly identifiable thereby with respect to one another, said identifiers thereafter accompanying terminating half-calls that form associated pairs of half-calls together with the originating half-calls to which the identifiers were applied and, (b) examining terminating half-calls to detect the identifiers such that upon detection of the identifiers the terminating half-calls

accompanying the detected identifiers and the originating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls (paragraph 0014 lines 7-14, paragraph 0034 lines 4-13, and figure # 4, elements 120, 122, 124, 130, 132, 134, 104 and 108).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose call context comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Tao et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Claims 5, 6, 7** are rejected under 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by **Elliott et al.**, (U S. Patent Application Publication # 2004/0022237 A1) in view of **Tho.** (U.S. Publication # 2004/0264455 A1) and further inview of **Thi et al.**, (U.S. Patent # 6,985,492 B1).

**Consider claim 5**, as applied in claim 1, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao**, and **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within a

telecommunications network the method of claim above, wherein the identifiers are audio watermarks, said audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls.

However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, originating and terminating half-calls to which the audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure switch for IP Network traffic.

**Consider claim 6**, as applied in claim 5, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao**, and **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within a telecommunications network the method of claim above, whereinstep



(a) comprises: superimposing the audio watermarks on traffic being delivered via the originating half-calls. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, originating and terminating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Consider claim 7**, as applied in claim 6, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao**, and **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within a telecommunications network the method of claim above, wherein the method of claim 6, wherein the audio watermarks are substantially

unperceivable by end users employing the consumer premises equipment. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, originating and terminating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks are substantially unperceivable by end users employing the consumer premises equipment (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Claims 13, 14 and 15** are rejected under 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by **Elliott et al.**, (U S. Patent Application Publication # 2004/0022237 A1) in view of **Tho.** (U.S.

Publication # 2004/0264455 A1) and further invview of **Thi et al.**,  
(U.S. Patent # 6,985,492 B1).

**Consider claim 13**, as applied in claim 8, **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao. and Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the call processing apparatus of claim above, wherein the identifiers are audio watermarks, said audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls by the application means. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, originating and terminating half-calls to which the audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao.** for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure switch for IP Network traffic.

**Consider claim 14**, as applied in claim 12, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao** and **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the call processing apparatus of claim above, wherein the application means superimposes the audio watermarks on traffic being delivered via the originating half-calls. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, originating and terminating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks are substantially unperceivable by end users employing the consumer premises equipment (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao** for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Consider claim 15**, as applied in claim 13, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Tao.** and **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the call processing apparatus of claim above, wherein the audio watermarks are substantially unperceivable by end users employing the consumer premises equipment. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose, originating and terminating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks are substantially unperceivable by end users employing the consumer premises equipment (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, and **Tao.** for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Claims 16-21**, are rejected under 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by **Elliott et al.**, (U S. Patent Application Publication # 2004/0022237 A1) and inview of **Thi et al.**, (U.S. Patent # 6,985,492 B1).

**Consider claim 16, Elliott et al.**, and as modified by **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the telecommunications network including a packet-switched network and a circuit-switched network (paragraph 0589 lines 1-6 and figure # 1, elements 132, 110, 118, 106,117,104,108 and 128) a gateway that bridges the packet-switched and circuit-switched networks with one another by selectively converting packet-switched calls into circuit-switched calls and vice versa depending on a direction of traffic flow over the gateway, said gateway comprising: an audio watermark generator that applies identifiers to a first leg of calls routed through the gateway (paragraph 0611 lines 5-10, Figure # 1, elements 108, 110) said identifiers distinctly identifying the respective calls to which they are applied from one another; an audio watermark sensor that examines a second leg of calls routed through the gateway to detect for identifiers. However, **Elliott et al.**, do not clearly disclose,

originating and terminating half-calls to which the identifier were applied are recognized as associated pairs of half-calls.

In the same field of endeavor **Thi et al.**, clearly show and disclose audio watermarks are substantially unperceivable by end users employing the consumer premises equipment (Column 20, lines 17-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate clearly show and disclose audio watermarks comprising distinctly encoded signals applied to the originating half-calls. as taught by **Thi et al.**, with the routing method disclosed by **Elliott et al.**, for the purpose of V/IP, and traffic through IP Gateway and secure and undetectable Network traffic.

**Consider claim 17**, as applied in claim 16, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the telecommunications network the gateway of claim above, including a packet-switched network and a circuit-switched network, wherein the gateway connects to the circuit switched-network through a circuit-

switched telecommunications switch (paragraph 0589 lines 1-6 and figure # 1, element 132, 110, 118, 106, 117, 104, 108 and 128.

**Consider claim 18**, as applied in claim 17, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the telecommunications network the gateway of claim above, wherein an interface is arranged between the gateway and the switch thereby operatively connecting them to one another such that from the perspective of the switch the gateway appears to behave as a remote digital terminal (paragraph 0589 lines 1-3 and figure # 57, element 418).

**Consider claim 19**, as applied in claim 18, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the telecommunications network the gateway of claim above, wherein the switch is a class five switch (paragraph 1508 lines 10-14, Figure 21 G, element 2146).

**Consider claim 20**, as applied in claim 19, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the



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telecommunications network the gateway of claim above, wherein the interface is a GR-303 interface (paragraph 1079 lines 11-12).

**Consider claim 21**, as applied in claim 19, **Elliott et al.**, as modified by **Thi et al.**, discloses and show within the telecommunications network the gateway of claim above, wherein the interface is a V.5.2 interface (paragraph 0589 lines 1-6 and figure # 1, elements 106, 104).

### **Conclusion**

Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to** (571) 273-8300  
**or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Hand-delivered responses** should be brought to

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Syed S.Zaidi whose telephone number is (571) 270-1779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Seema S.Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the

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receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Syed S.Zaidi  
S.Z./sz.

AUGUST 9th, 2007.

*Seema S. Rao*  
SEEMA S. RAO 8/13/07  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600